

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

Ernie Fletcher Governor Teresa J. Hill Secretary

Capital Plaza Tower 500 Mero Street, 5th Floor Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Phone: (502) 564-5525 Fax: (502) 564-3354 www.eppc.ky.gov

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Jim Carroll

502-564-7760, ext. 239

KENTUCKY OFFICIAL TO TELL NATIONAL CONFERENCE HOW TO THWART 'FRAUDS, CHEATS AND SCAMS' IN CHARITABLE GAMING

Attendees will hear tips on how to avoid losses

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 5, 2007) – Leah Cooper Boggs, assistant director of the Division of Licensing and Compliance in the Office of Charitable Gaming, will tell a national conference how to thwart theft in charitable gaming.

Boggs will take part in a panel – "Frauds, Cheats and Scams" – at the Bingo World Conference, which begins Wednesday, March 7, in Las Vegas. The event brings together 2,000 people from charitable organizations that conduct games, along with manufacturers, suppliers, and others in the gaming industry.

In her presentation, Boggs plans to discuss common ways that money can be skimmed from a bingo game. She will offer specific cases in which unsuspecting organizations were victimized by people posing as good-hearted volunteers.

"Kentucky is at the forefront in protecting players of charitable games," Boggs said. "It is one of the few states with an office devoted specifically to games run by nonprofit groups." The Kentucky charitable gaming statute was the basis for the Model State Game Regulatory Act drafted by the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States.

If you think bingo is a nickel and dime endeavor, think again. A single organization running bingo games twice a week can handle \$1 million in receipts a year. Charitable institutions took in \$550 million in gaming receipts in Kentucky last year.

The Office of Charitable Gaming is in the Department of Public Protection, an agency of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet.

